HOW TO COLLECT AND USE DATA IN EXCEL

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Texas Juvenile Probation Commission
Data Coordinators' Conference 2008

Goals

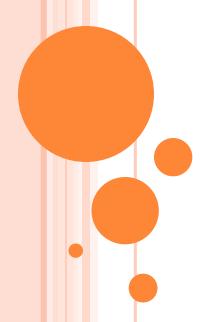
- To be able to gather and organize information in Excel
- To be able to perform basic analysis of data in Excel
- To be able to effectively present information in charts

Why Use Excel

- Most computers have Microsoft Office
- Excel is capable of managing a relatively large amount of information which should be suitable for most departments
- It is fairly easy to perform basic analysis using Excel

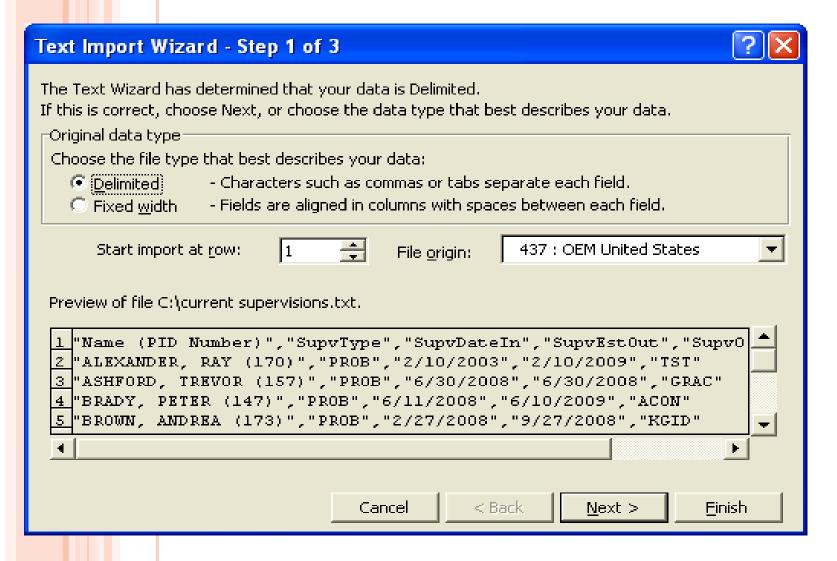
Managing Information

- Extract from Caseworker
- Entering by hand



Create Output File

- Sneak-a-Peek results saved to a text file can be pulled into an Excel table.
 - o Run a Sneak-a-Peek report.
 - o At the Results Screen, select Create Output File. This will open the Save As box.
 - Name the file, and save it as a txt file. The default is to save the file on the Local Disk (C:)
 - Open Microsoft Excel.
 - Click File. Click Open.
 - Open the .txt file. When looking for the txt file, make sure to include All Files in the Files of Type box.
- The Text Import Wizard will open.
 - Ensure that Delimited is checked and click Next





- The data in this txt file is separated by commas, therefore, change the Delimiters from Tab to Comma and click Next.
- At the last screen of the Text Import Wizard, click Finish to import the information into the table.
- o Once the data is in the table, click the empty box in the upper left corner to highlight the entire table.
- Double click the line between two of the columns (A and B). This will automatically format the width of each column.
- When saving this file, change the extension from .txt to .xls.

Input by hand

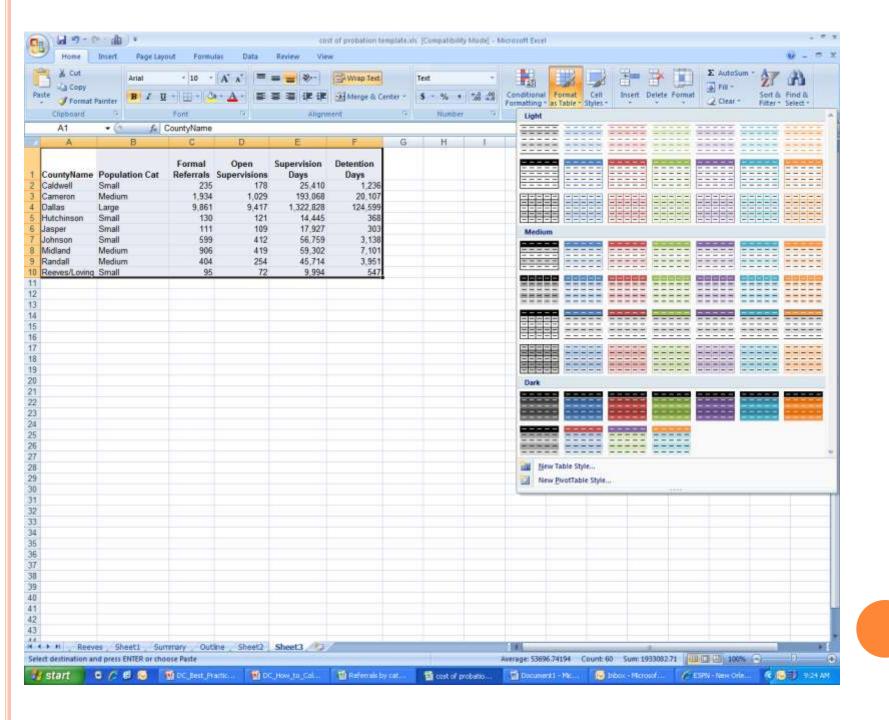
- You can also choose to input information yourself
- You would do this if you were interested in tracking information that may not be kept in Caseworker
- This would also be useful if you would like to keep a readily accessible source of information

Managing Information

- Use the List function for easy sorting
 - Go to the Insert menu on the menu bar and select List
 - If you have already created your file check that the data source for the list is an existing Excel file and select the entire active section of the worksheet as the source
 - Select a new worksheet as the destination page
 - You can change both the source data and the list location in the list wizard after a list has been created
 - The list function allows for easy sorting of information

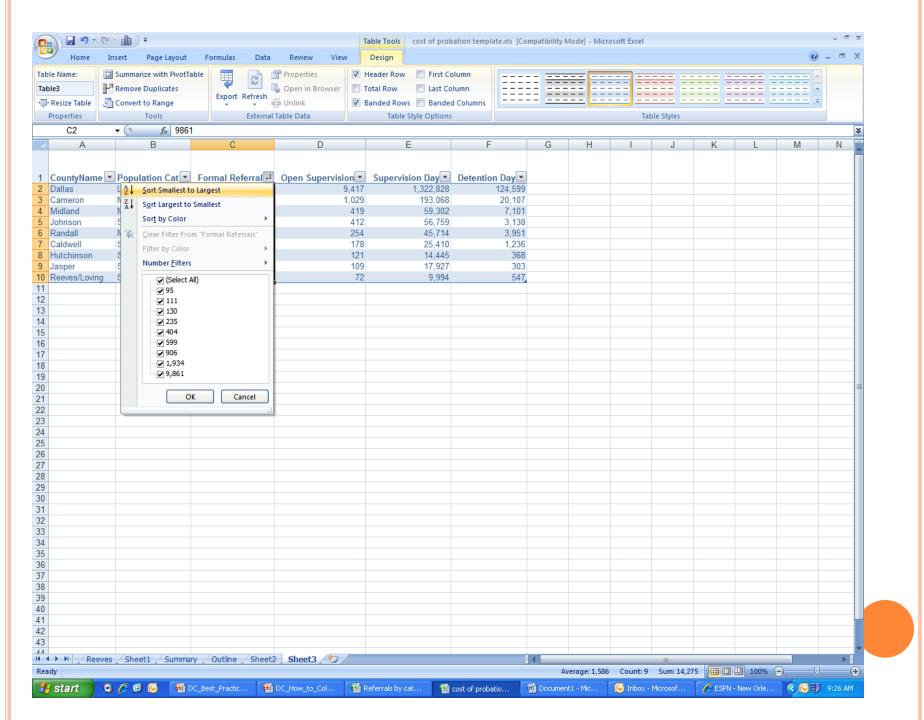
FORMAT AS TABLE

- With Excel 2007, Format as Table is an easy way to manage data
 - Highlight the cells that you would like to manage
 - Click the Format as Table button
 - Select the type of display for the table



Managing Data

- You can sort by column, either numerically or alphabetically
- You can filter out specific values
 - For example, you could select to view only small counties, or all counties except midsize counties



Common Functions

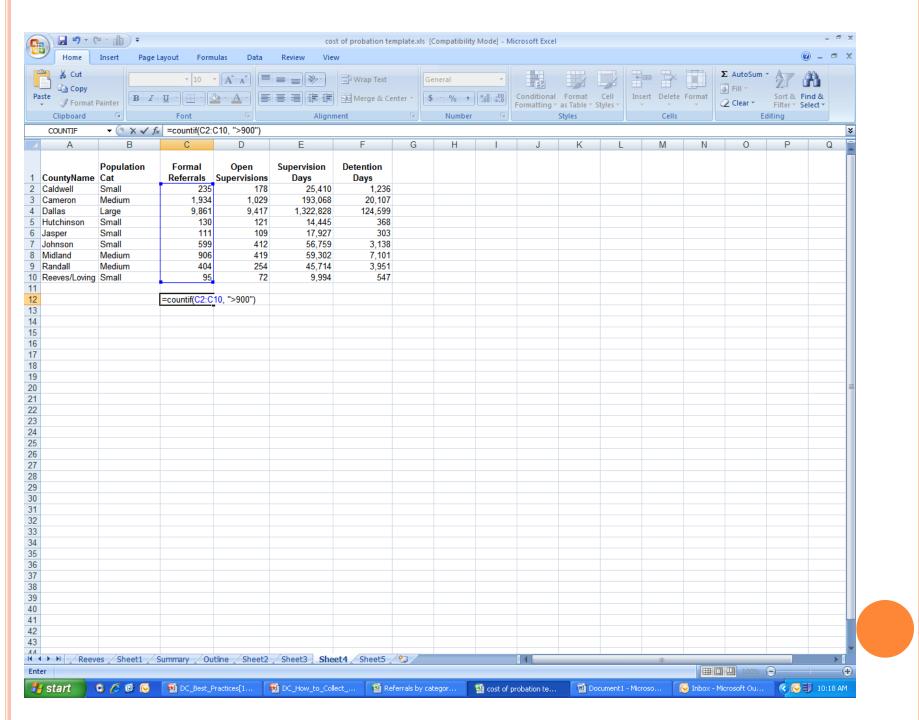
- \circ =Average(C2:C10)
 - Average of all values in column C, rows two through ten
- \circ =Median(C2:C10)
 - Median of all values in column C, rows two through ten
- \circ =Sum(C2:C10)

Sum of all values in column C, rows two through ten

=Max(C2:C10)

Maximum value in column C, rows two through ten

- \circ =Min(C2:C10)
 - Minimum value in column C, rows two through ten
- o =Countif(C2:C10,">900")
 - Counts the number of times the value of a cell in column C, rows two through ten is greater than 900



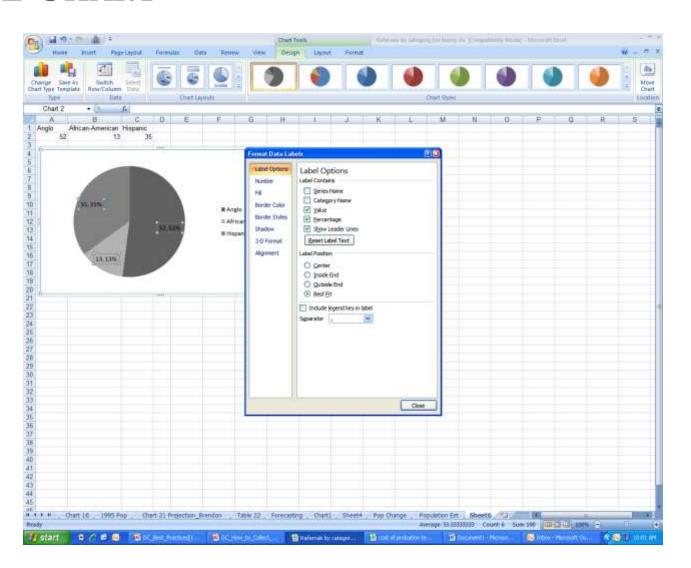
Charts

- Different charts serve different needs
 - Pie charts Shows the share of the total population of various subgroups
 - Column Charts Compare within groups at a particular point in time
 - Line Charts Shows continuous changes over time

PIE CHARTS

- Highlight the area that you would like to be the source data
- From the Insert menu, select chart
 - In Excel 2007 press the button that corresponds with the desired chart
 - In older versions of Excel select the chart type from the menu that corresponds with the desired chart
- Click the pie chart area and select format data labels
- Select the values that you wish to display

PIE CHART



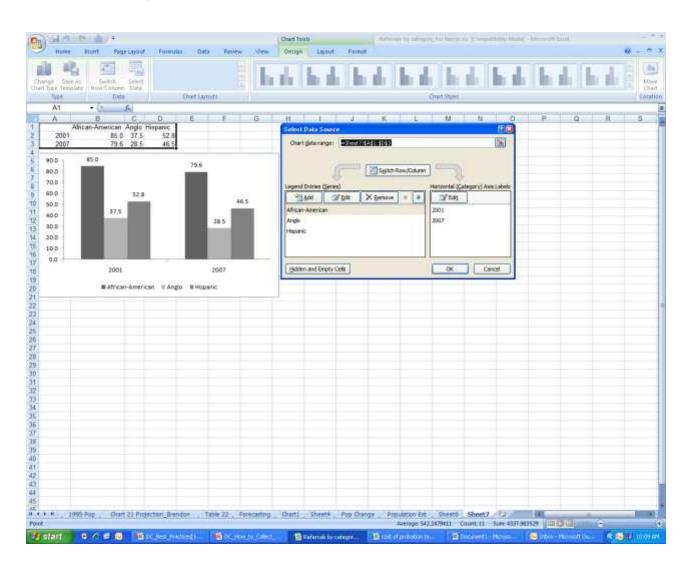
COLUMN CHART

- Highlight the area that you would like to be the source data
- From the Insert menu, select chart
 - In Excel 2007 press the button that corresponds with the desired chart
 - In older versions of Excel select the chart type from the menu that corresponds with the desired chart

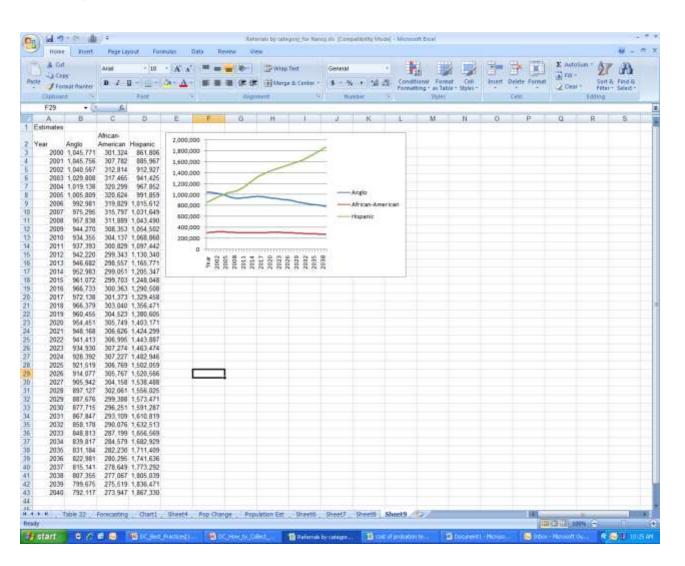
COLUMN CHART

- Click the column chart area and select "select data"
 - This will allow you to alter how the information is displayed
 - The current setting will compare referral rates of the different race/ethnic groups within each year
 - Selecting Switch Row/Column will adjust the chart so that it compares referral rates of each race/ethnic group with itself in a given year

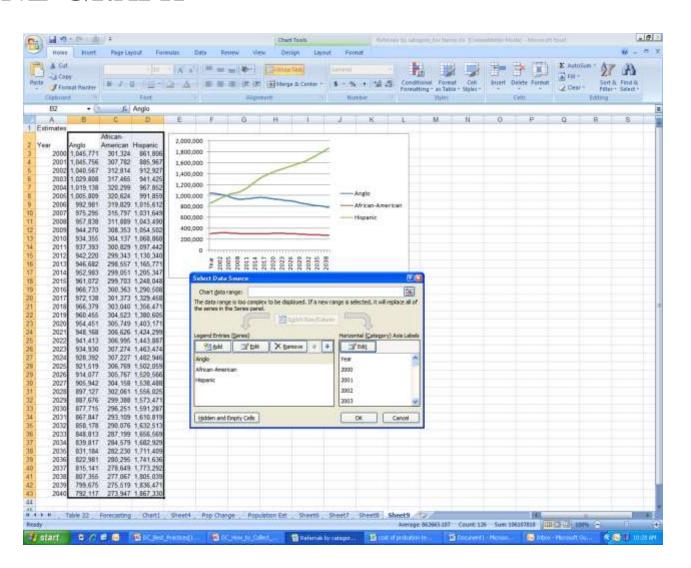
COLUMN CHART



- Highlight the cells that you would like to serve as source data
- From the Insert menu, select chart
 - In Excel 2007 press the button that corresponds with the desired chart
 - In older versions of Excel select the chart type from the menu that corresponds with the desired chart

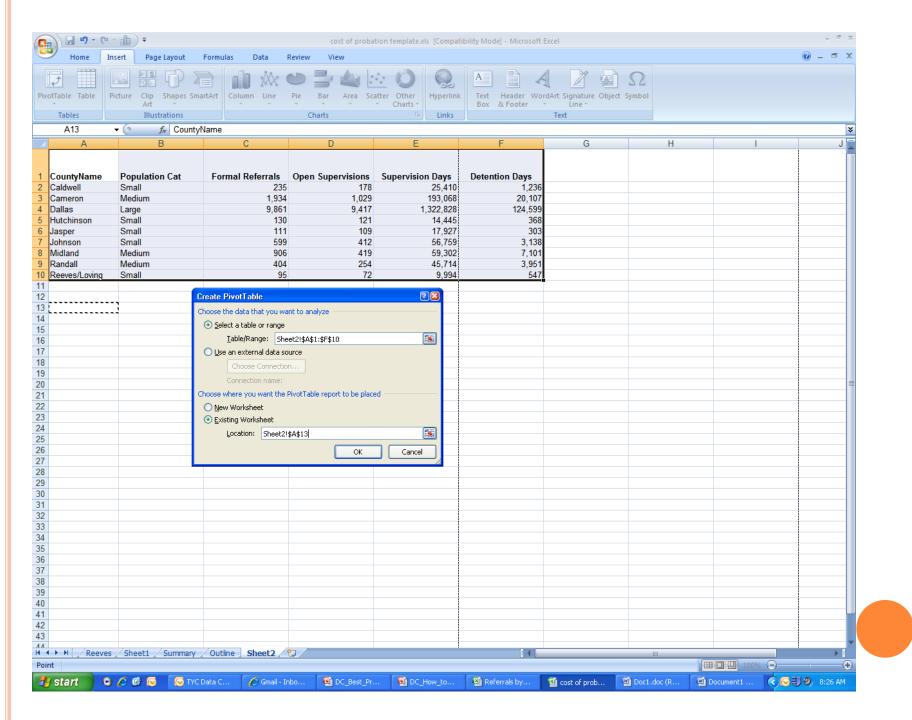


- To change the labels on the horizontal axis click the edit button under the Horizontal (Category) Axis Label
- Drag over the cells or enter in the range manually that you would like to be the axis label



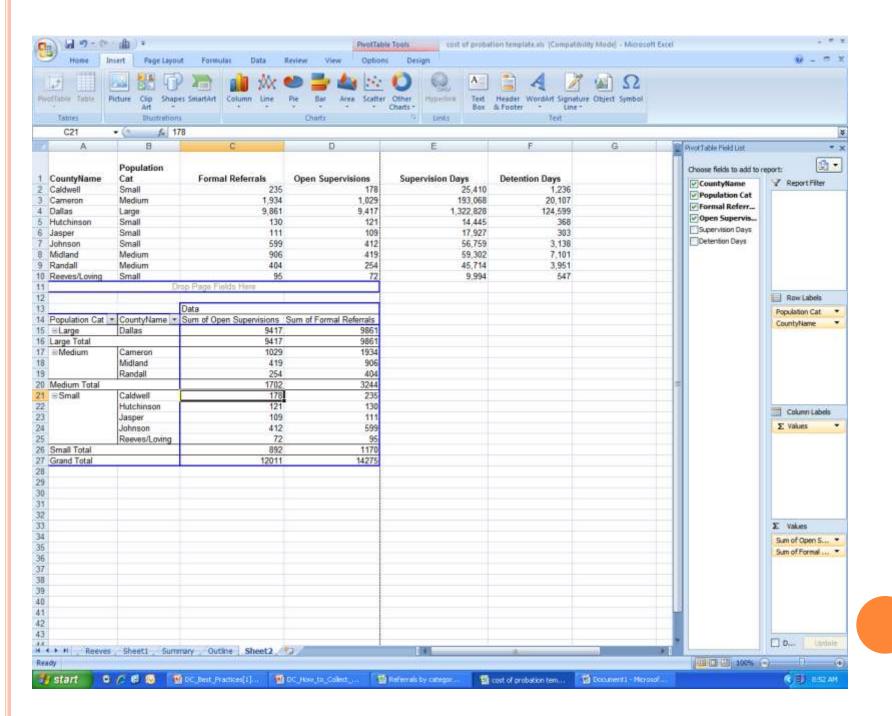
Using Pivot Tables

- From the Insert menu, select Pivot Table
- Click Select Table or Range and choose the active dataset as source data
- Select the desired location for the Pivot Table and click okay



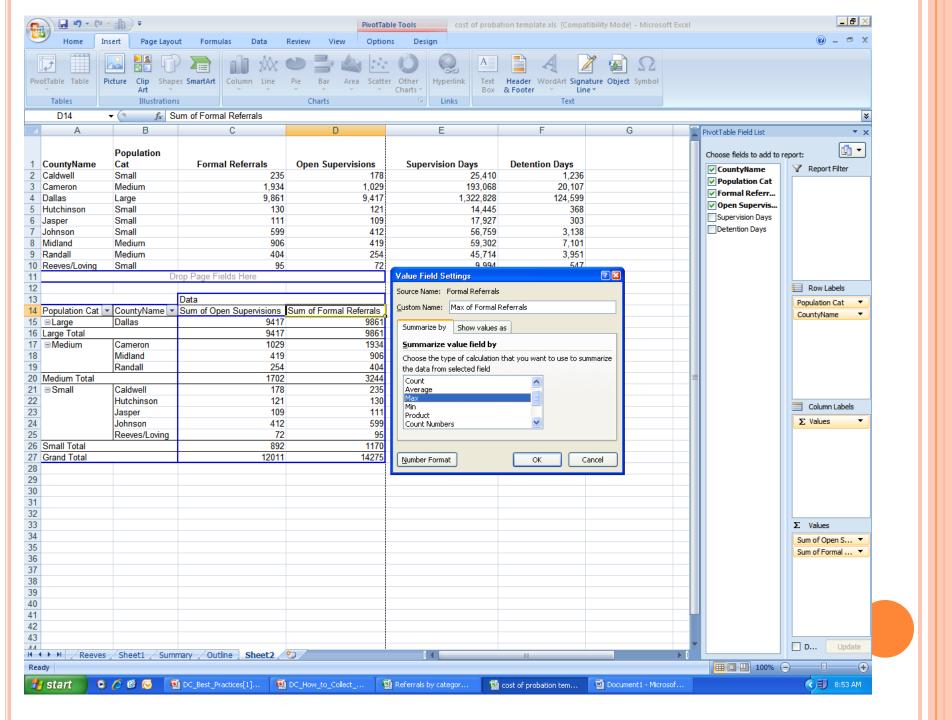
USING PIVOT TABLES

- Select the variable that you want to be the row label
 - If you select multiple variables to be row labels, the top variable will be the main heading and the subsequent variables will be subheadings
- \circ Drag the variables that you want to summarize in the columns to the \sum values box



USING PIVOT TABLES

- You can change the type of information presented in the columns by double-clicking the column header and selecting the type of calculation that you'd like to use
- You can click the + or button in front of the row header to either show or hide the subheadings



Thank You

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